GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:163
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
ROUTE FOR OIL PIPELINE FROM IRAN
RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Iran has sought closer cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector, particularly in developing the use of CNG as an automotive fuel in his country;

(b) if so, whether the proposed Indo-Iran gas pipeline project received a new lease of life and Tehran also promised to consider favourably India`s proposal seeking equity for its state-owned oil firms in Iran; and

(c) if so, the details of agreements arrived at between India and Iran during the visit of Iranian Minister recently?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.163 ANSWER ON 14.03.2002 REGARDING ROUTE FOR OIL PIPELINE FROM IRAN.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The India-Iran Gas Pipeline Project is an on-going activity for which feasibility studies are in progress. The Government of India has requested the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran through diplomatic channel for participation of Indian oil Companies in the liquefied natural gas (LNG) chain and exploration and production of oil and gas in Iran. The response of the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran is awaited.

(c) During the recent visit of Iranian delegation to India, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) and National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC have signed a fresh Memorandum of Cooperation on January 17, 2002 covering gas and related sectors for mutual cooperation.